



The Open Art Room

By Melissa Purtee and Ian Sands

The Open Art Room is the first book to present a framework for choice-based instruction for secondary level (grades 6–12) art education. Taking inspiration from a variety of contemporary teaching methods, authors Melissa Purtee and Ian Sands have developed a student-centered approach to art instruction that is inspirational, practical, and classroom-tested.

The Open Art Room includes:

- the philosophy and goals of the Open Art Room approach;
- a flexible instructional framework with options for beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels of Choice;
- assessment in the Open Art Room;
- unit plans, bootcamps, mini-lessons, and classroom examples;
- clear connections to the National Core Art Standards;
- engaging stories of student struggles and successes.

“The framework that Purtee and Sands have developed allows for all students to be supported regardless of skill or experience. This innovative approach, with its invitation to teachers to create their own practice, offers exciting possibilities for secondary art educators to transform their classrooms into hubs of student-centered creativity.”

—Katherine Douglas, founder of Teaching for Artistic Behavior

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